

COUNTY OF OAKLAND  
**OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**

MICHAEL J. BOUCHARD



February 12, 2008

The Honorable Paul Condino, Chairman  
House Judiciary Committee  
P.O. Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Representative Condino:

Thank you for your consideration of House Bill 4092 which is designed to allow for DNA samples to be collected upon arrest for a violent felony. In addition, thank you to Representative Aldo Vagnozzi for his leadership on this important issue.

I would like to express my support for HB 4092 with the amendments to be considered by the committee which further clarifies and updates the language in the bill as well as provides for corresponding amendments to related acts to provide for consistency.

The ability to collect DNA samples upon arrest for a violent felony will help to solve current crimes faster and aid in the prevention of future crimes. A number of states have already adopted this practice and have seen measurable results. Many states have even gone so far as to add every arrest to the DNA database. Such evidence is critical to law enforcement and critical to public safety. I respectfully request that the committee pass this bill with the proposed amendments as well as ensure proper funding for our already back-logged DNA labs.

Moreover, it is important to point out that Wisconsin, which has half the population of Michigan, has 58 serology and DNA scientists. Illinois, which has approximately the same population as Michigan, has 100 serology and DNA scientists. Michigan has 36. I cannot reiterate enough the importance of ensuring this state provided service is fully operational and fully funded.

Thank you and the Committee for your consideration of this bill. Please feel free to call if I can be of further assistance or answer any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Bouchard", written over a horizontal line.

Michael J. Bouchard  
OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF